

CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1. A system for printing documents from a portable data device comprising:
print request receiver means adapted for receiving a print request from an
5 associated portable data device, wherein the print request includes a selected one of a request for
a printout of electronic document data stored on the portable data device, and reference data
representative of an electronic document stored in a location other than the portable data device;
document data receiver means adapted for receiving document data representative
of a document for which a printout is desired;
10 formatting means adapted for formatting document data in accordance with a
selected associated printing device; and
communicating means adapted to communicate formatted document data to the
selected associated printing device so as to facilitate printing a document therefrom.

15 2. The system for printing documents from a portable data device of claim 1 wherein
the document data receiver means includes at least one of dial-up and a wireless data connection.

3. The system for printing documents from a portable data device of claim 2 wherein
the document data receiver means includes a spooler adapted for spooling the document data
20 prior to formatting thereof.

4. The system for printing documents from a portable data device of claim 1 wherein
the print request receiver means includes means adapted for authenticating the associated
portable data device.

25 5. The system for printing documents from a portable data device of claim 1 wherein
the associated portable data device comprises one of a group consisting of a telephone, a
notebook computer, a personal data assistant and a web-enabled cellular telephone.

6. The system for printing documents from a portable data device of claim 1 wherein the print request originates from one of a group consisting of an application, a browser and an Internet connection.

7. The system for printing documents from a portable data device of claim 6 wherein the application and the browser operate on one of a group consisting of a notebook computer, a personal data assistant and a web-enabled cellular phone.

8. A method for printing documents from a portable data device comprising the steps of:

receiving a print request from an associated portable data device, wherein the print request includes a selected one of a request for a printout of electronic document data stored on the portable data device, and reference data representative of an electronic document stored in a location other than the portable data device;

receiving document data representative of a document for which a printout is desired;

formatting document data in accordance with a selected associated printing device; and

communicating the formatted document data to the selected associated printing device so as to facilitate printing a document therefrom.

9. The method for printing documents from a portable data device of claim 8 wherein the document data is received via at least one of dial-up and a wireless data connection.

10. The method for printing documents from a portable data device of claim 8 further comprising the step of spooling the document data prior to formatting thereof.

11. The method for printing documents from a portable data device of claim 8 further comprising the step of authenticating the associated portable data device.

12. The method for printing documents from a portable data device of claim 8 wherein the associated portable data device comprises one of a group consisting of a telephone, a notebook computer, a personal data assistant and a web-enabled cellular telephone.

5 13. The method for printing documents from a portable data device of claim 8 wherein the print request originates from one of a group consisting of an application, a browser and an Internet connection.

10 14. The method for printing documents from a portable data device of claim 13 wherein the application and the browser operate on one of a group consisting of a notebook computer, a personal data assistant and a web-enabled cellular phone.

15 15. A computer readable medium of instructions for printing documents from a portable data device comprising:

print request receiver means adapted for receiving a print request from an associated portable data device, wherein the print request includes a selected one of a request for a printout of electronic document data stored on the portable data device, and reference data representative of an electronic document stored in a location other than the portable data device;

document data receiver means adapted for receiving document data representative of a document for which a printout is desired;

formatting means adapted for formatting document data in accordance with a selected associated printing device; and

communicating means adapted to communicate formatted document data to the selected associated printing device so as to facilitate printing a document therefrom.

25 16. The computer readable medium of instructions for printing documents from a portable data device of claim 15 wherein the document data receiver means includes at least one of dial-up and a wireless data connection.

17. The computer readable medium of instructions for printing documents from a portable data device of claim 16 wherein the document data receiver means includes a spooler adapted for spooling the document data prior to formatting thereof.

5 18. The computer readable medium of instructions for printing documents from a portable data device of claim 15 wherein the print request receiver means includes means adapted for authenticating the associated portable data device.

10 19. The computer readable medium of instructions for printing documents from a portable data device of claim 15 wherein the associated portable data device comprises one of a group consisting of a telephone, a notebook computer, a personal data assistant and a web-enabled cellular telephone.

15 20. The computer readable medium of instructions for printing documents from a portable data device of claim 15 wherein the print request originates from one of a group consisting of an application, a browser and an Internet connection.

20 21. The computer readable medium of instructions for printing documents from a portable data device of claim 20 wherein the application and the browser operate on one of a group consisting of a notebook computer, a personal data assistant and a web-enabled cellular phone.

22. A computer-implemented method for printing documents from a portable data device comprising the steps of:

25 receiving a print request from an associated portable data device, wherein the print request includes a selected one of a request for a printout of electronic document data stored on the portable data device, and reference data representative of an electronic document stored in a location other than the portable data device;

30 receiving document data representative of a document for which a printout is desired;

formatting document data in accordance with a selected associated printing device; and

communicating the formatted document data to the selected associated printing device so as to facilitate printing a document therefrom.

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23. The computer-implemented method for printing documents from a portable data device of claim 22 wherein the document data is received via at least one of dial-up and a wireless data connection.

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24. The computer-implemented method for printing documents from a portable data device of claim 22 further comprising the step of spooling the document data prior to formatting thereof.

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25. The computer-implemented method for printing documents from a portable data device of claim 22 further comprising the step of authenticating the associated portable data device.

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26. The computer-implemented method for printing documents from a portable data device of claim 22 wherein the associated portable data device comprises one of a group consisting of a telephone, a notebook computer, a personal data assistant and a web-enabled cellular telephone.

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27. The computer-implemented method for printing documents from a portable data device of claim 22 wherein the print request originates from one of a group consisting of an application, a browser and an Internet connection.

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28. The computer-implemented method for printing documents from a portable data device of claim 27 wherein the application and the browser operate on one of a group consisting of a notebook computer, a personal data assistant and a web-enabled cellular phone.